

# 2015-2016 Update Accommodations

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

ASSMNT. FOR STUDENTS W/ DISABILITIES TETN #36603

# Disclaimer

- ▶ These slides have been prepared and approved by the Student Assessment Division of the Texas Education Agency.
- ▶ If any slide is amended or revised for use in local or regional trainings, please remove this slide as well as the TEA footer at the bottom of each slide.

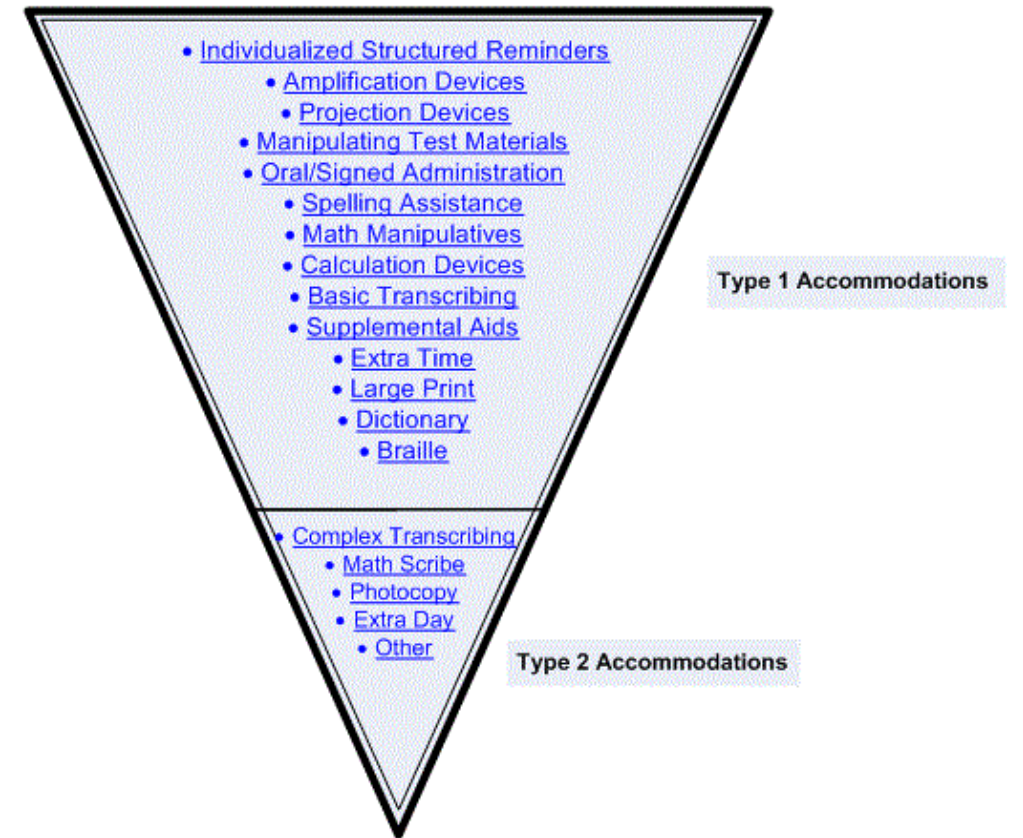
# Suggested Training for Region, District, and Campus Professionals

- ▶ It is the intent of TEA's Student Assessment Division that all resources created to clarify testing and accommodation policies be accessible to educators at the region, district, and campus levels, including classroom teachers.
- ▶ This is a comprehensive training but does not take the place of reading the associated documents.
- ▶ Relevant district and campus staff will need to read all of the policies and related resources once they are posted on TEA's Student Assessment webpage. These documents contain all the details.



# Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

## Accommodations for Students with Disabilities



# Overview of Changes for the 2015-2016 School Year

- ▶ No policy changes to allowable accommodations, just clarifications
- ▶ Added STAAR Algebra II and English III where applicable
- ▶ Online Accommodation Request Form
  - ▶ Requests approved during the 2015 calendar year remain effective until December 31, 2015. Only submit additional requests for new Type 2 accommodations (e.g., new student, change in accommodation).
  - ▶ Requests for the 2016 calendar year can be submitted beginning in January, and all approvals remain effective until December 31, 2016.

# Accommodation Resources Webpage

Contains comprehensive information about accommodations for students with disabilities taking state assessments.

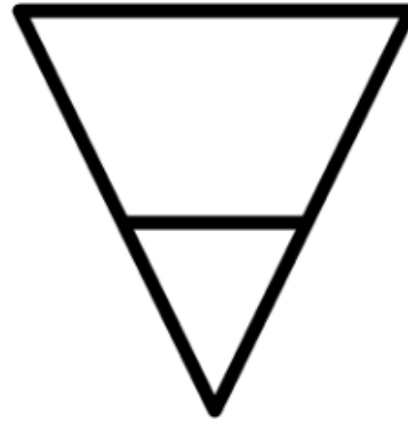
## Accommodation Resources

Accommodations are changes to materials or procedures that enable students with disabilities or English language learners (ELLs) to participate meaningfully in learning and testing. It is important to keep in mind that while some accommodations may be appropriate for instructional use, they may not be appropriate or allowable on a statewide assessment.

The accommodation resources on this website are provided by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for districts to use in implementing accommodation policies for the STAAR, the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS), and the TAKS assessments.

## STAAR and TELPAS Accommodations

TEA accommodation policies are divided into two main categories:



### 1. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Taking State Assessments

These policies address accommodation needs related to a disability or disabling condition and are intended to provide students effective and equitable access to grade-level or course curriculum and assessments.

- [2016 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Taking State Assessments](#)
- [2015 Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Taking State Assessments](#)



# Students with Disabilities Who are Eligible for Accommodations on State Assessments

- ▶ Students with an identified disability who receive **special education** services and meet established eligibility criteria for certain accommodations
- ▶ Students with an identified disability who receive **Section 504** services and meet established eligibility criteria for certain accommodations
- ▶ Students with a disabling condition who **do not receive special education or Section 504 services** but meet established eligibility criteria for certain accommodations

# Authority for Decisions

- ▶ Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee
- ▶ Section 504 placement committee
- ▶ Appropriate team of people at the campus level (e.g., Response to Intervention (RTI) team, student assistance team)



# Critical Information about Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

- ▶ Educators should review this document on TEA's Accommodations for Students with Disabilities webpage
  - ▶ General information about accommodations
  - ▶ Accommodations during classroom instruction and testing
  - ▶ Accommodations during state assessments
    - ▶ Not all accommodations suitable for instruction are allowed during the state assessments
    - ▶ Routinely, independently, and effectively
  - ▶ The Accommodation Triangle
  - ▶ Planning for testing accommodations

# Accommodation Triangle

A diagram of an inverted triangle divided into two horizontal sections. The top section is labeled 'Type 1' and the bottom section is labeled 'Type 2'. Two callout boxes with arrows point to each section. The top box explains Type 1 accommodations, and the bottom box explains Type 2 accommodations.

Type 1

**Type 1** accommodations are approved locally based on specific eligibility criteria. The decision to provide these accommodations is made by the appropriate team of people at the campus level.

Type 2

**Type 2** accommodations require TEA approval to use during a state assessment. The appropriate team of people at the campus level determine whether the student meets all of the specific eligibility criteria and, if so, submits an Accommodation Request Form to TEA.

## Accommodation type

**TEA**  
Texas Education Agency

**Individualized Structured Reminders**

**Description of Accommodation**

This accommodation allows a test administrator to provide a student with a disability individualized structured reminders to stay on task during state testing beyond what is required or allowed for any student during the standard administration procedures.

**Assessments**

For a student who meets the eligibility criterion, this accommodation may be used on

- STAAR
- STAAR Spanish
- STAAR L
- STAAR A

**Student Eligibility Criteria**

A student may use this accommodation if he or she

- ☐ routinely and effectively uses this accommodation during classroom instruction and classroom testing.

**Authority for Decision and Required Documentation**

- For a student receiving special education services, the decision is made by the IEP committee based on the eligibility criteria and is documented in the student's IEP.
- For a student receiving Section 504 services, the decision is made by the Section 504 committee based on the eligibility criteria and is documented in the student's IAP.
- For a student not receiving special education or Section 504 services, the decision is made by the appropriate team of people at the campus level (e.g., RTI team, student assistance team) based on the eligibility criteria and is documented according to district policies.
- In the case of an ELL with a disability, the decision is made by the applicable group above in conjunction with the student's LPAC. The decision is to be documented by the LPAC in the student's permanent record file and by the other applicable group, as described above.
- For state testing, GA must be recorded in the ACCOMM. field on the student's answer document or in the Texas Assessment Management System for online administrations. This indicates that an allowable general accommodation was made available to the student.

No Accommodation Request Form required.

**Examples/Types**

This accommodation includes but is not limited to

- paperclips or adhesive notes used to divide test into sections
- more-frequent or less-frequent reminders of time left to test than required in the standard administration procedures
- structured reminders that are part of a behavior plan
- personal timer or clock set to remind a student to move on to the next question, page, or section or to remind a student to stop at preestablished times during the test
- index cards that have handwritten or color-coded reminders to continue working

**Special Instructions/Considerations**

1. General reminders to stay on task (e.g., test administrator tapping on the shoulder, verbal reminder to continue working) are allowable test administration procedures for any student who needs them per the Allowable Test Administration Procedures and Materials document on the TEA's Accommodations for Students with Disabilities webpage. General reminders are not

This icon indicates whether or not an Accommodation Request Form is required.

This section provides a general description of the accommodation.

This section lists the assessments the accommodation may be used on by eligible students.

This section lists the eligibility criteria that must be met in order for the student to use the accommodation on a state assessment.

This section describes who can make accommodation decisions for students, where to document these decisions, and what to record on the answer document.

This section describes the specific examples/types of the accommodation that may be used on the state assessment. Pay careful attention to this list because it is sometimes exhaustive.

This section outlines special instructions and considerations about the accommodation. Educators must be aware of this information when making decisions about using accommodations and when administering assessments with accommodations.

# Type 1 Accommodations

- ▶ Individualized Structured Reminders
- ▶ Amplification Devices
- ▶ Projection Devices
- ▶ Manipulating Test Materials
- ▶ **Oral/Signed Administration**
- ▶ Spelling Assistance
- ▶ **Mathematics Manipulatives**
- ▶ **Calculation Devices**
- ▶ Basic Transcribing
- ▶ **Supplemental Aids**
- ▶ Extra Time (Same Day)
- ▶ Large Print
- ▶ Dictionary
- ▶ Braille



Type  
1



# Oral/Signed Administration

- ▶ STAAR Algebra II and English III were added.
- ▶ In the “Assessments” section, edits were made to clarify what could and could not be read aloud during an oral administration.
- ▶ All mention of STAAR A was removed except for a note explaining that an oral administration was not applicable to STAAR A. Oral administration eligibility for STAAR A should NOT be determined or documented.
- ▶ In the “Authority for Decision and Required Documentation” section, a minor edit was made to account for the fact that the OA bubble is not on a writing answer document. Eligibility for an oral administration may be determined for these assessments; however, if a student is eligible, this accommodation will not be recorded on the answer document.

# Mathematics Manipulatives

- ▶ STAAR Algebra II was added.
- ▶ The format of the “Student Eligibility Criteria” was changed for clarification; however, the policy is the same as the previous year.
- ▶ In the “Examples/Types” section, the use of clocks was restricted to the following: “clock with or without numbers shown on clock face; **the clock should NOT have gears**” (meaning the clock should have independently moving hour and minute hands)

# Calculation Devices

- ▶ STAAR Algebra II was added.
- ▶ Calculators used by eligible students as a testing accommodation must adhere to the guidelines set forth in the STAAR Calculator Policy.
  - ▶ Please note that the STAAR Calculator Policy was revised and posted on TEA's STAAR Mathematics Resources webpage. The guidelines set forth in this updated policy also apply to calculator use as an accommodation.

# Supplemental Aids

- ▶ The format of the “Student Eligibility Criteria” was changed for clarification; however, the policy is the same as the previous year.
- ▶ The following change was made to the #2 example of allowable math charts: *Multiplication charts that are grade appropriate may be used. The multiplication chart must be a grid used to find the product, not a list of multiplication facts. Indicating special numbers (e.g., highlighting or circling perfect squares within the body of the chart) is **NOT** allowed.*
  - ▶ Deleted from previous policy: Each axis may only be numbered 0 through 12.

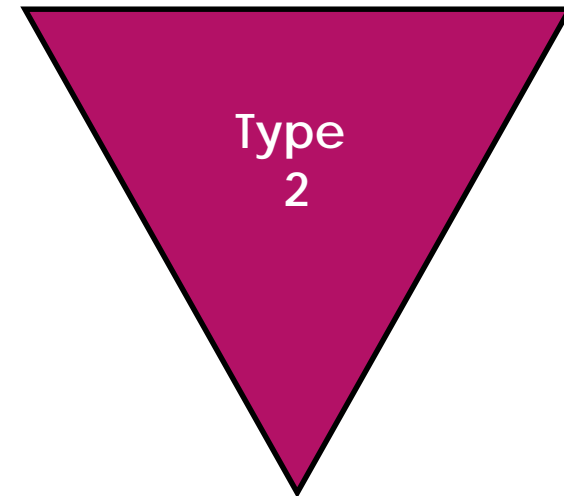


## Supplemental Aids (cont.)

- ▶ The following change was made to the #3 example of allowable math charts: *A number chart (e.g., 100 chart) may be used. Indicating special numbers (e.g., highlighting or circling prime numbers within the body of the chart) is **NOT** allowed.*
- ▶ Previous language restricted this type of supplemental aid to 100 charts.

# Type 2 Accommodations

- ▶ Complex Transcribing
- ▶ Mathematics Scribe
- ▶ Photocopying Test Materials
- ▶ Extra Day
- ▶ Other



# Accommodations in Emergency or Unexpected Situations

- ▶ Follow these steps when unexpected or emergency situations (e.g., broken arm, lost eyeglasses) occur just prior to or on the day of the state assessment. More specific information can be found on TEA's Accommodations for Students with Disabilities webpage.
  - ▶ **Step 1:** No need to contact TEA if a student's needs can be met with allowable test administration procedures or materials.
  - ▶ **Step 2:** No need to contact TEA if a student's needs can be met with Type 1 accommodations.
  - ▶ **Step 3:** Contact TEA if the student's needs cannot be met with Step 1 or 2, and Type 2 accommodations are being considered.

# Recording Accommodations on the Student's Answer Document

## ▶ *District and Campus Coordinator Manual*

- ▶ **GA** = general accommodation
- ▶ **BR** = braille administration
- ▶ **LP** = large print administration
- ▶ **OA** = oral administration
- ▶ **XD** = extra day
- ▶ **LA** = linguistic accommodation

ACCOMM.	
M	R
GA	GA
BR	BR
LP	LP
OA	OA
XD	XD
LA	LA

- ▶ Record the accommodation that is documented and made available to a student, even if the student did not use the accommodation during testing.



# COMING SOON!

## Supplemental Accommodation Resources

- ▶ Accommodation Request Process For Type 2 Accommodations
- ▶ General Instructions for Administering Braille State Assessments
- ▶ General Instructions for Administering Large-Print State Assessments
- ▶ General Instructions for Administering State Assessments to Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
- ▶ Font and Point Size Matrices
- ▶ Miscellaneous training presentations (e.g., Supplemental Aids)
- ▶ Allowable Test Administration Procedures and Materials

# Accommodations for STAAR Alternate 2, TELPAS, and TAKS

- ▶ Information about accommodations for students taking the following assessments can be found in the applicable manuals.
  - ▶ **STAAR Alternate 2:** *Educator Guide for STAAR Alternate 2* and the test administration manual
  - ▶ **Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS):** test administration manual
  - ▶ **Texas Assessments of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS):** *Directions for District Coordinators, Campus Coordinators and Test Administrators* on the TAKS Resources webpage